

Wall Street Games Hit Market

By REYNOLDS KNIGHT
Investors today are really getting a chance to "play" at striking it rich. The public's growing interest in the ins and outs of Wall Street has led to a host of new games based on the stock market. At least a half-dozen game companies are bringing to market several new stock games and are sprucing up some Wall Street parlor games that have been around for years. One happy consumer reporting on one of the new games said, "It's terrific. It's based on spinning a dial that changes stock prices. It's as close as you can come to playing the real market."

They reason that a moneyless whirl at the stock market should be just as attractive, investors would not risk losing their shirts and the manufacturers would sell a lot of games. The outcome of many of the games rests on a roll of the dice and pure luck, but in many other players can plot, chart and study the background of a company, just as do real investors. If the game manufacturers have their way, "playing the market" at home could become one of the nation's leading pastimes. **OVER-THE-COUNTER** movement of watches in the United States may well hit the 50-million mark in 1969, says Harry B. Henshel, president of Bulova Watch Co. If it does, it will mark a milestone for an industry

whose retail sales currently are running at a \$1-billion-a-year rate. Chief factors contributing to the potential new sales record, he said, are "continuing high employment levels, larger disposable incomes throughout the nation, and greater creative and merchandising initiative on the part of watch manufacturers." The Bulova leader sees 1969 as a year of intensive research and development in timekeeping devices on an international scale, with greater accuracy a major goal. **HIS COMPANY** recently displayed two experimental products in this area. One is an atomic clock that represents the first use of radioactive emanations as the time base. The other is an all-electronic (quartz crys-

tal) clock with no moving parts except for its high-frequency quartz crystal. Each is said to have a potential accuracy of plus-or-minus one minute a year. "Admittedly these devices are years away from retail counters," he said, "but they're indicative of the space-age thinking of leading watch manufacturers." **BITS O' BUSINESS** — Looking ahead to next season and the job of filling grandstand seats with fans, the New York Yankees are telling companies and their executives that business deals can be made as easily at a baseball game as on the golf course. . . . Bejeweled snails are the latest "in" fad. Pet stores and toy departments are doing a brisk holiday business in

the \$3 "conversation pieces." The snails with beads attached to their shells are sold in hibernation with instruction on how to wake them up and, later, put them back to sleep again. **DOMESTIC** consumption of new rubber in 1969 will amount to a record of more than 2.5 million long tons, equivalent to more than 27 pounds of rubber for every person in the United States, in the estimates of Ward Kenner, chairman of the B.F. Goodrich Co., and Harry B. Warner, president. The two company officers said all-time rubber industry highs are expected next year in domestic production, rubber consumption, total tire shipments and sales of replacement passenger tires, flat betting, hose

and vinyl resin. They said shipments of replacement passenger tires will rise about 4 per cent in 1969 to a record 126 million units. Original-equipment passenger tire shipments should decrease slightly, to 47.5 million units, based on an expected drop in domestic auto production from 8.9 million to 8.6 million cars. They pointed out that the industry, while continuing to increase its output of rubber and rubber products, in recent years has become an increasingly important producer of plastic materials and products, chemicals, and aerospace, textile and metal products. This diversification has helped the rubber industry continue to grow at a more rapid rate than that of the nation's economy, they added.

Christmas Sky Topic of Show

Audiences will be transported back through the centuries to the time of Christ in the traditional holiday show, "The Christmas Sky," at Griffith Park Observatory. This special holiday program is presented Tuesday through Friday at 3 and 8:30 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday at 1:30, 3, 4:30 and 8:30 p.m. The facility will be closed Dec. 23, 24, and 25. Through the use of the giant Zeiss projector, a re-creation of the original Christmas sky is provided, according to Dr. Clarence H. Clemminshaw, director of the Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department facility. During the show some educated guesses are provided by astronomers as to the origin and true nature of the Christmas star, Dr. Clemminshaw said. Admission to each presentation is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students 18 years of age and under.

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